



AROUND THE STATE: DRONES HOVER OVER IBC; SMT OFFICERS FIND SUBOXONE, MARIJUANA

As many as three drones were seen flying over Bellamy Creek Wednesday night.

An officer in a PSV saw the first drone at about 10:40 p.m. Wednesday as he was driving on the east side of the perimeter. The Ionia County Sheriff's Office and Michigan State Police responded. Within an hour of the first sighting, IBC staff and law enforcement saw two more drones. [Read the article with comments from MCO.](#)

The CO in the PSV heard, then saw the drone. It approached through a wooded area behind the prison. It appeared to have come from the direction of MR, an officer said. It flew over IBC property and then went away. A drone was also recorded on camera, an officer said.

No contraband was found, and no one was apprehended.

This PSV driver did a great job of staying vigilant. He happened to be making a round at just the right time to spot the first drone. The elimination of constant perimeter rounds and around-the-clock gun tower staffing makes the threat of drones even more serious.

Meanwhile, charges against three people accused in the Aug. 17 [MTU drone drop](#) are moving through the courts. They face five-year felony charges. The Ionia

Sentinel-Standard [wrote an article on one of their court appearances](#) last month and included comments from the Honorable Judge Ronald Schafer.

"The risk to the institution, the employees and the inmates as a result of something like this — it's stunning that something that poses that serious a risk would end up with that low of (sentencing) guidelines. This seems like something the Michigan Judges Association, the Prosecuting Attorneys Association of Michigan and the state legislature might take a look at..." Schafer was quoted as saying.

"The actions that occurred certainly are very, very serious and could have been deadly for folks working on the inside. The risk of harm that was introduced I think was incredibly serious..."

MCO will keep members updated on drone sightings and efforts to stop them from flying over prisons.

Parnall officers uncovered marijuana and 25 strips of Suboxone on an inmate Sept. 22.

An officer saw two inmates smoking while on the yard. COs searched both prisoners and found the contraband on one of them. The inmate was taken to temporary segregation.

APPLY FOR CLOSER TO HOME TRANSFER LIST NOW

Officers may apply for the closer-to-home transfer list during the month of October.

Spots on the list are limited; some officers who apply won't make the list.

Get more information and learn how to apply at mco-seiu.org.

PAYMENTS COMING

Attendance and physical fitness incentives, dry cleaning allowances, and longevity payments will be dispersed in October and November.

See scheduled payment dates below. The payments will be added to regular paychecks. Additionally, the 3% wage increase took effect Oct. 1 and will be seen on paychecks starting Oct. 19.

For more details, see articles 22, 27, and 37 of the contract.

Payment	Amount	Date
Base-pay increase	3%	Oct. 19
Uniform allowance	\$575	Oct. 19
Sick/physical fitness incentive	varies by amount of sick time used	Nov. 2
Longevity	varies by years of service	Nov. 2

Military Members News: Join us as we serve veterans in Ann Arbor Oct. 14



MILITARY MEMBERS

The MCO Military Members Committee will be hosting a frozen yogurt social at the

VA Ann Arbor Healthcare System at 12 p.m. Oct. 14.

MCO members who are current or former military members are invited to join us as we serve and chat with about 40 veterans in long-term care. WCC staff and their families will provide music.

The VA Ann Arbor Healthcare System is located at 2215 Fuller Rd. in Ann Arbor.

If you are interested in attending or need more information, please contact [CMO John Hassen](#). Learn more about the MCO Military Members Committee on the [MCO website](#).